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Amasia to Samsun. Now, for the first time in four months, I am comfortably settled under a roof (till this moment my tent was my only house), for I am in the house of the English Consul, my old friend, whose hospitality I was accustomed to enjoy during the ten years I rambled through Asia Minor. I had the pleasure to find at Samsun all the ponderous boxes (no less than fourteen, full of minerals, plants, &c.) which I had sent from different points of the countries I had crossed, and I am now occupied in investigating and packing up these glorious trophies, painfully conquered during my adventurous expedition. As soon as this business is finished, and my treasures embarked for Marseilles, I will remount my horse, in order to proceed to Constantinople, following all the zig-zag of the shore. Though this journey will require a ride of at least twenty-five days, I consider it quite a "parti de plaisir," compared with my rambles through the inhospitable countries I have crossed.

Believe me, my dear friend, yours most faithfully,

P. DE TCHIHATCHEF.

3. *Sudden Rise of the Sea at Heligoland.* By Dr. E. HARMSSEN, M.D.

Communicated by SIR RODERICK I. MURCHISON, &c. &c. &c.

Heligoland, June 16th, 1858.

REQUESTED by the Governor, Major Pattinson, I send a description of a phenomenon that took place in the island of Heligoland, in lat. $54^{\circ} 145' N.$, long. $7^{\circ} 53' E.$ of Greenwich, on the 5th of June.

At 4:20 P.M. of the above date, during the finest and mildest spring weather, a cloudless sky and the warmest sunshine, the thermometer at $73^{\circ} F.$, with a slight breeze from the E.S.E., the sea around this island in the short time of one quarter of a minute rose 6 feet, remaining about 3 minutes at this elevation, and during 10 minutes receded gradually to its former level; no noise or sudden gust of wind accompanied this phenomenon, nor was a wave formed whilst it lasted.

On Sandy Island, situate about a mile from this, the main island, and where the beach rises very gradually, the phenomenon took place under somewhat different circumstances; there the sea did not rise in so unusual a manner, but a large wave approaching from S.E. rolled with great force and speed, as if driven by a gale, towards the shore, where breaking, it ran up the beach a distance of 70 feet. This first large wave was followed by three smaller ones, which meeting each other in the course up and down the beach, created a surf which principally on the reefs of rock was very strong, covering them with foam in a manner as it is seen only during a storm.

At about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 the wind changed to the S.E., and increased to a moderate breeze till 5 o'clock, the time of high-water, the horizon became clouded, and the oppressive heat towards evening made a thunderstorm very probable.

At 8:35 and 8:50 P.M. the phenomenon re-occurred in a similar manner as in the afternoon; in both instances a wave of the height of 5 feet rolled from west to east with great rapidity and noise towards the island; in both instances the large wave was followed by three or four smaller ones. The approaching of all these waves could be observed for two or three minutes, as they, rolling over the far extending reefs of rock, covered them with foam; the wind still blowing a fresh breeze from S.E.

During this, the water rose about 4 feet at the beach of this land, remained so for two minutes, and then in a time of four minutes receded to its former level.

In the course of the night there were no repetitions of the phenomenon, but

from 11 P.M. till 3 A.M. a moderate thunderstorm took place, accompanied by some violent gusts of wind, but little rain.

Finally, I have to remark that the barometer stood at $29^{\circ} 98'$, and did not show any fluctuation during the phenomenon. The narrative of the phenomenon taking place on the afternoon I have drawn up from materials furnished by pilots and other people at this time on the beach, several of whom were exposed to considerable danger by the sudden, unexpected rising of the water; but of the repetition, during the evening, I was fortunate enough to be myself an eye-witness.

E. HARMSSEN, M.D.

4. *Journey from Origstadt to Delagoa Bay, &c.* By MR. COQUI.

Communicated by THOMAS BAINES, Esq., F.R.G.S.

March 4, 1846.—I left Origstadt with two waggons, our party consisting of five white persons and three Kafirs. We passed at first through a bold mountainous country, with little or no game, and on the 10th began the descent of the Drakensberg, which, running nearly parallel to the coast, stretches from the south to an unknown distance in a northerly direction. From the land there is no perceptible ascent, but the face toward the sea is exceedingly steep and bushy, and though we commenced early, the day was spent before we reached the bottom..

We crossed a fine river, name unknown, flowing N.N.E. along the base of the range, and the next day reached the kraal of the Kafir chief "Mysole," a fine, intelligent-looking man, who for a couple of heifers supplied us with three guides, directing them to point out a path which he said was not infested by the poisonous fly tsetse.

We followed an old track of the emigrant farmers a day farther, and then turned to the right or south. In three or four days more we crossed the "Onguini," a stream 400 yards wide, rising in the Drakensberg and flowing sluggishly to the north-east: its current, indeed, was almost imperceptible. Numbers of canoes were plying on its surface.

We now passed through a hilly and thickly-wooded country, through which we had to cut our way with the axe—in one place particularly for about five miles without intermission. In four days we crossed the second source of the Kamati, which rising also in the Drakensberg, joins the Onguini at the same place where another river flows into it from the northward, and the three then bending south, empty their waters into Delagoa Bay under the name of the Manice, which is not, as Captain Harris supposed, the Limpopo, nor has it any connexion either with that or with the Elephant River. The broad river of Tricheard was very probably the junction of these three. Here some of the Kafirs caught the tsetse or fly, and as the guides had evidently failed in finding us a safe passage, we pushed on as speedily as possible to save our cattle from its deadly sting. The country became now more open, the flats were diversified with clumps of bush and a few hills, and tenanted by troops of elephants, one of which we shot, and multitudes of buffaloes, quaggas, gnooks, and nearly every other species of game that in all probability had never before been fired at.

About the 27th we found a large timber forest, with several beautiful springs of clear water, the first we had seen from Origstadt. On the 31st we arrived in the vicinity of Delagoa Bay, somewhat to the southward of the settlement of Lorenzo Marques, and after crossing the Mattol, a stagnant muddy marsh rather than a river, we reached the settlement on the 2nd of April and outspanned on the beach opposite.

The village and fort are situated on a sandy hillock, surrounded at spring-